



Recycling Lines

Electronic Newsletter

February 2007

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Environmental Enhancement

P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218 (804) 698-4029 Fax (804) 698-4224.

DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

Please note our new P.O. Box and Zip Code .

Welcome to Recycling Lines, We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related recycling. Let us know by sending this information to Steve Coe at gscoc@deq.virginia.gov.

Eight Virginia Schools are Participating in Recyclemania

There are 201 colleges and universities from 42 states that are participating in an annual 10-week recycling competition which runs from January 28 – April 7, 2007. The Recyclemania contest allows schools to win in different categories for recycling including grand champions, per capita, waste minimization, and targeted materials. Virginia's schools that are participating in 2007 are:

- ✓ Bridgewater College
- ✓ James Madison University
- ✓ Northern Virginia Community College – Alexandria Campus
- ✓ Old Dominion University
- ✓ University of Virginia
- ✓ Virginia Military Institute
- ✓ Virginia Tech
- ✓ Washington and Lee University

Go to www.recyclemaniacs.org to learn more about the program and see the week-by-week results of the schools. In 2006, the University of Richmond took 4th place for recycling cardboard.

Nominations for Deconstruction/Best Practices

The Building Materials Reuse Association (BRMA) is soliciting nominations for individuals or organizations that have made a positive impact on the deconstruction/building materials reuse community. The Deconstructor of the Year award and the Innovative Reused Building Materials Business Practices awards will be awarded at the BRMA Conference on Deconstruction, Building Materials Reuse, and C & D Recycling which will be held May 14 – 17, 2007 in Madison, Wisconsin. Nominations for the awards must be received by March 16.

To get more information about the awards and to register for the conference, go to www.buildingreuse.org

Did You Know?

- ✓ The Environment Virginia Conference will be held April 10 – 12, 2007 in Lexington.
www.environmentva.org
- ✓ On May 1 and 2, the Virginia Recycling Association will hold its annual conference in Williamsburg in partnership with the Virginia Council for Litter Prevention and the SWANA Old Dominion Chapter. Early bird registration ends March 1, 2007. Go to:
<http://www.vrarecycles.org/conference.htm>
- ✓ CY 2006 Recycling rate reports for each Solid Waste Management Planning districts are due to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for the previous year by April 30, 2007. The form can be downloaded by going to:
<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/> Contact Sheila Barnett at (804) 698-4055 or smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov or Steve Coe at (804) 698-4029 or gscoc@deq.virginia.gov.
- ✓ The VRA is promoting a recycling license plate and is requesting that people submit license plate designs for a contest and pre-order a recycling license plate. License plate designs must be submitted to the VRA by April 20, 2007. Go to <http://www.vrarecycles.org> or call (888) 867-1923.
- ✓ Retailers and electronics manufactures voluntarily recycled more than 34 million pounds of electronics in 2006 as part of their commitment to the EPA's Plug-In To eCycling program. Since 2003, Plug-In partners have recycled more than 90 million pounds of electronics. Go to: <http://www.epa.gov/plugin/>
- ✓ The Rechargeable Battery Corporation (RBRC) recovered more than 5.6 million pounds of rechargeable batteries through its North American Program in 2006. Most of the batteries were collected through the Call2Recycle program which partners with retailers. Go to the RBRC/Call to Recycle website at:
<http://www.rbrc.org/call2recycle/>

Orange County High School Student Inspires Recycling

A kindergarten student saw Kelly McDowel, a junior at Orange County High School cut up a six-pack ring. He asked her why she did it, and she replied that it was to keep bottle-nosed dolphins and birds from possibly getting a head stuck in a ring. The student replied; "Wow, Miss Kelly, you really care."

Miss McDowell has further been a champion of recycling for the youngsters who come to the Boys and Girls Club. She invited Orange County's recycling manager to speak to the children, and she reminds the children to recycle plastics and aluminum cans. The children are so excited about recycling that in homes where the parents don't recycle, the children bring their recyclables to the Boys and Girls club to be recycled.

To speak with Sheila Donnelly, the Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Orange County, call 540-672-6858.

To contact Richard West, the Director of Public Works, call 540-672-9600 or email him at: rwest@orangecova.com

Recycling Lines Continued

2006 Energy Star Change a Light Change the World Year-End Results

As of December 29, 2006, Energy Star reported that they have received 6,779 pledges from Virginia to participate in the Energy Star Change a Light Change the World Campaign.

Commonwealth citizens pledged to change 16,127 bulbs which have a projected energy cost savings of \$ 454,781 and a reduction of greenhouse gases of 7,176,515 pounds.

The 2006 national goal for Energy Star's Change a Light Change the World Campaign was to receive 3,000 pledges from across the nation; therefore, Virginia alone provided twice as many pledges as the Change a Light Change the World Campaign expected to get from the nation!

Consider taking the pledge in 2007 and ask your citizens to do so too. Go to: <http://www.energystar.gov/> and scroll down to the Energy Star Change a Light Pledge.

Energy Star light bulbs are beneficial because they:

- ✓ Use 1/3 of the energy of a standard incandescent light,
- ✓ Last up to 10 times longer,
- ✓ Save an average of \$30 or more in energy costs over their lifetime,
- ✓ Prevent 450 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions over its lifetime and;
- ✓ Help preserve our energy resources.

Virginia College & University Recycling Coordinators Workshop – March 27, 2007

The University of Richmond and the Virginia Department of General Services invite recycling managers and other waste reduction/pollution prevention professionals to attend their workshop on Tuesday, March 27, 2007 from 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the University Commons Building.

Topics include:

- ✓ Waste Auditing
- ✓ The Power of a Good Contract
- ✓ Program Education and Promotion
- ✓ Food Waste Composting
- ✓ Collection Updates
- ✓ Greening Your School
- ✓ Green Building/C & D Recycling
- ✓ Recyclemania
- ✓ Green Procurement

Please register by March 21, 2007. The workshop is free. A buffet lunch will be available for \$11. Contact Georgina Ball, Virginia Department of General Services, at georgtiana.ball@dgs.virginia.gov or (804)289-8607.

Town of Culpeper Starts Curb-Side Recycling Program

On January 22, 2007, the Town of Culpeper started a pilot recycling program for cardboard from downtown and a curbside collection for newspapers for residents along Sperryville Pike. The Town Council Public Works Committee will evaluate the pilot cardboard and newspaper collection program and will decide how to modify their program at the end of April.

Contact Robert H. Thornhill, Jr., Director of Public Works, at 540-825-0285 or bthornhill@verizon.net

Web Link of Interest:

Consumer Reports' environmental website Green Choices.org
<http://www.greenerchoices.org>

City of Roanoke is Going Green

The City of Roanoke is going green because as Paul Tuntich, the city's environmental administrator says; "It's the right thing to do."

In municipal buildings, they have made the following changes:

- ✓ Energy efficient boilers, water heaters, heating and air conditioning systems are being added to municipal buildings.
- ✓ City hall has decided to use waterless urinals which they estimate will save nearly 1 million gallons of water each year and will save on wastewater treatment costs.
- ✓ Energy-efficient T8 lighting fixtures with lighting motion sensors are replacing less efficient lights.

They have made the following changes to fleet vehicles:

- ✓ Fleet vehicles have started using biodiesel in fleet vehicles. This includes more than 450 school buses, garbage trucks, dump trucks and other vehicles that use approximately 600,000 gallons of fuel a year.
- ✓ When they replace vehicles, they will buy hybrid vehicles.
- ✓ They have replaced leaky hoses on vehicles that they determined had a frequent problem with leakage.

Collecting and monitoring hazardous waste:

- ✓ The city now accepts hazardous waste three times a week (an increase from only one day a week).
- ✓ Fuel deliveries are monitored for spills
- ✓ Oil filters are crushed, drained and disposed of
- ✓ Anti-freeze is recycled
- ✓ Freon and synthetic freon are recovered to prevent them from getting into the atmosphere.

The city has also joined the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) which will assist Roanoke with software training and technical assistance to track and monitor the city's greenhouse gas emissions and set goals.

ICLEI is an international association of more than 475 local governments that have committed to creating a sustainable environment. For information about ICLEI, go to: <http://www.iclei.org/>. For information about Roanoke's greening plans, contact Paul J. Truntich, Jr., the Environmental Administrator at (540) 853-2425 or Paul.Truntich@roanokeva.gov

Earth Friendly Computers Available

In July, 2006, the EPA funded a program to rate environmentally friendly computers. The effort is called the Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT). EPEAT computers are beneficial to the environment because they:

- ✓ Contain fewer toxics
- ✓ Are more energy efficient; and
- ✓ Are easier to upgrade and recycle than a traditional computer.

Sales of EPEAT computers are intended for large volume purchasers such as government agencies or businesses.

For more information go to: www.epeat.net

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